## Message Text

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R 101544Z AUG 77 FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8188 INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

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EO 11652: NA TAGS: ECRE, EG SUBJ: SADAT CITY

- 1. SUMMARY: PRESS ACCOUNTS INDICATE GOE FOCUSING ATTENTION ON BEGINNING WORK AT "NEW TOWN" OF SADAT CITY. MANY QUESTIONS REMAIN, HOWEVER, ABOUT DEVELOPMENT OF PROJECT. END SUMMARY
- 2. RECENT CAIRO PRESS HAS CARRIED ARTICLES STATING THAT GOE AUTHORITIES HAVE "STARTED TO EXECUTE PLANNING MEASURES" FOR FIRST STAGE OF SADAT CITY PROJECT. CHAIRMAN OF NEW CITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, HASSABALLH EL KAFRAWY, IS QUOTED IN ONE ARTICLE AS SAYING THAT THESE STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN WITHOUT WAITING FOR FINAL REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED BY CONSULTANTS WORKING ON SADAT CITY STUDY. STUDY IS SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED SEPT 77, BUT GOE IS ACTING NOW "IN ORDER TO SAVE TIME." FIRST STAGE WILL PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION FOR 150,000 PERSONS AND, ACCORDING TO KAFRAWY, CITY WILL EVENTUALLY INCLUDE AN IRON AND STEEL COMPLEX AND VARIOUS OTHER INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES.
- 3. IT IS UNCLEAR FROM NEWS ACCOUNTS WHAT IS MEANT BY "STARTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO EXECUTE PLANNING MEASURES," I.E., WHETHER FURTHER PLANNING OR CONCRETE IMPLEMENTATION OF EXISTING PLAN IS BEING UNDERTAKEN. STAFF MEMBER (DIR IS OUT OF TOWN) AT SADAT CITY PLANNING STUDY GROUP (SCPSG), WHICH IS CONSULTANT REFERRED TO ABOVE, SAID HIS OFFICE IS ITSELF MYSTIFIED ABOUT WHAT KAFRAWY HAS IN MIND AND HAD BEEN TRYING REACH HIM FOR CLARIFICATION. SCPSG OFFICIAL NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT KAFRAWY HAD BEEN BUILDING UP

HIS OFFICE STAFF AND WAS UNDER PRESSURE TO SHOW FORWARD MOVEMENT IN DEVELOPMENT OF MUCH-TALKED-ABOUT NEW CITIES SCHEMES.

- 4. KAFRAWY'S REFERENCE TO IRON AND STEEL COMPLEX IS OF SPECIAL INTEREST. SCPSG DIR IN JULY SENT EMBASSY COPY OF SCPSG LETTER TO KAFRAWY NOTING REPORTS THAT IRON AND STEEL COMPLEX PLANNED FOR SADAT CITY MIGHT BE BUILD INSTEAD AT SITE WEST OF ALEXANDRIA, NEAR PLANNED MAJOR PORT OF DEKHEILA. LETTER PROTESTS ANY SUCH MOVE IN VIEW CENTRAL IMPORTANT OF THIS MAJOR INDUSTRIAL FACILITY TO ENTIRE SADAT CITY CONCEPT. QUESTION, ACCORDING SCPSG STAFFER, WAS NOT MERELY DIRECT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY IRON AND STEEL COMPLEX WOULD PROVIDE, BUT FACT THAT FACILITY WOULD GENERATE NUMEROUS "SPIN-OFF" ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES AND WOULD REPRESENT SOLID GOE COMMITMENT TO DEVELOPMENT OF CITY.
- 5. KAFRAWY, SCPSG BELIEVES, RECOGNIZES IMPORTANCE OF IRON AND STEEL COMPLEX TO PLANS FOR SADAT CITY, AND SUPPORTS HAVING IT LOCATED THERE. IT IS CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT GOE INDUSTRIAL PLANNERS ARE CURRENTLY CONCENTRATING ON ALEXANDRIA SITE AND HAVE INVITED PROPOSALS FROM FOREIGN FIRMS FOR STUDIES AND EVENTUAL INVESTMENT IN IRON AND STEEL COMPLEX, WITH TERMS OF REFERENCE BASED ON LOCATION NEAR ALEXANDRIA. THUS, DESPITE EVIDENCE OF INCREASING GOE ATTENTION TO SADAT CITY, MANY QUESTIONS REMAIN ABOUT FORM, PACE AND DIRECTION OF ITS DEVEOPLENT. GOE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOURCES OF FINANCING FOR SADAT CITY PROJECT, AS WELL, REMAIN AS MUCH A MATTER OF DOUBT AS EVER. EILTS

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